



# Washington DC Chapter GIA Alumni Association

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## DC GIA MEETING

APRIL 7, 2008

7:00 – 9:00 P.M.

MR. ERIC HOFFMAN

## SOLVING THE MYSTERIES OF OLD CHINESE NEPHRITE JADES

Mr. Eric Hoffman is a retired space systems engineer who worked on missions to Mercury, Pluto, and the asteroid Eros. He has since turned a 35-year interest in Chinese jades into a Web-based business selling all over the world. He has authored approximately 20 articles on jades, snuff bottles, and archer's rings and is writing a book on old Chinese jades. He is also a member of Friends of Jade, a jade consultant to the Chinese Cultural Relics Association, and Contributing Editor (Asian) for *Adornment Magazine*.

Mr. Hoffman's presentation will focus on nephrite jade. GIA members and industry professionals are frequently well informed about jadeite, the type of jade usually seen in jewelry. But nephrite jade—the remarkable material carved by the Chinese for over 5000 years—is not as widely known. Mr. Hoffman's illustrated talk will help answer the three essential questions about old Chinese jades that one might encounter as an appraiser or a jeweler:

- 1) Is it true jade or one of many pseudojades?
- 2) Is the carving Chinese?
- 3) The most difficult question of all—is it as old as the seller claims?

We meet at the Holiday Inn Rosslyn, 1900 Ft. Meyers Drive, Arlington, VA 22209, at the Virginia end of Key Bridge, 703-807-2000. Admission is free for those who have paid their 2008 meeting fees and \$15.00 for all others. Please visit the Chapter's website at [www.dcgia.org](http://www.dcgia.org).

Please remember to bring your completed DCGIA Chapter application and renewal form and the yearly meeting fee of \$75.00, if you have not already submitted the foregoing.

Andrea Blake, Secretary  
5480 Wisconsin Ave., #409  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815-3506

Next Meeting:  
May 6 – Reema Keswani